



MILITARY FAMILY ASSISTANCE BOARD

Meeting Minutes
September 20, 2016

1. Call to Order/Roll Call (1005hrs)

MFAB Members present: COL Jona Hughes, National Guard designee; (Mrs.) Alex Juan, honorably discharged veteran; John Nolan, Jr., honorably discharged veteran; Billy Robbins, honorably discharged veteran; Sammy Guillory, DCFS designee; Representative Chris Hazel, House designee; Dennis Andras, Lt Governor's designee

LDVA Staff present: Charlie Dirks, Executive Counsel; Alfred Leger, Deputy Assistant Secretary/Benefits

2. Pledge

The pledge of allegiance was said in unison.

3. Board Consideration

The Board approved a rule proposed by Rep. Hazel (2nd by Mr Andras) stating: MFA will accept applications from eligible Veterans for assistance stemming from March 2016 flooding.

The Board approved a rule proposed by Rep. Hazel (2nd by Sammy Guillory) to cease 2016 Flood Relief Operations by October 17, 2016, to include ceasing delivery operations of checks by 1800hrs daily.

4. Fund Committee and Need Based Claim(s)

In accordance with MFA rules, the Fund Committee met and recorded minutes. The Fund Committee submitted the application to the Board for review, as the member in question is an LDVA employee and a board vote was appropriate. After discussion from the group, a motion was submitted by COL Hughes (2nd by Alex Juan) to approve Pamela Russell's application for \$1800.

The Board also voted to approve the application of William Coppersmith for \$3,000.00. Motioned by Alex Juan (2nd by Dennis Andras)

5. Flood Relief Operation Update

Over \$95,000 expended towards the \$350,000 limit, so far. Applications will cease on 17 October; the group is confident we will reach the \$350,000 limit before then, and be able to summarize the Operation at the next Board Meeting. Post 9/11 and Pre 9/11 Veterans are all being served by this Operation.

6. ///Old Business/// Discussion of Request from LA National Guard (LANG)

///Old Business///Captain White briefed on the request for travel assistance for the Army National Guard 1023rd Vertical Engineer Company (90 personnel) for flights from Fort Bliss, TX to various locations and back to Fort Bliss prior to deployment to Kuwait. The actual travel dates were March 20-23, 2015, and the cost estimate is \$45,375.79. If approved, the funds would be in the form of a reimbursement.

ACTION: COL Hughes is taking this to LANG for an answer on funds transfer, or official withdrawal of request.

7. Other Business

Next month's meeting (October) TBD. Goal is late October, so a total and final Flood Operation update can be given to the Board.

8. Adjournment

Minutes submitted by: John Nolan, Jr., Outreach Director, LDVA

**Copies of all handouts referenced in the minutes are available upon request.*

09/20/2016

//Minutes approved by the Military Family Assistance Board at its November 10, 2016, meeting.